

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 10389 211728Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----029950 212229Z /63

R 211555Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6427
INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

S E C R E T CAIRO 10389

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, EG, SO
SUBJECT: SADAT ON ARMS TO SOMALIA

1. DURING MY MEETING WITH SADAT, JUNE 20, IN ALEXANDRIA, HE MENTIONED EGYPTIAN ARMS ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA. HE ASSERTED THAT THE VALUE OF SUCH ARMS TOTALLED \$13 MILLION. HE WOULD GIVE US A LIST OF THE ARMS PROVIDED, IF WE WISHED.

2. SADAT RECALLED THAT IN RESPONSE TO SIAD BARRE'S INITIAL REQUEST, HE HAD SENT A SHIPLOAD OF ARMS. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE SOMALI PRESIDENT HAD PRESSED FOR MORE URGENT DELIVERIES. HENCE, HE HAD BEGUN AN AIRLIFT, USING THE C-130S BOUGHT FROM US. BECAUSE OF THE ALL-PERVASIVE SOVIET INFLUENCE IN SOMALIA, SIAD BARRE HAD ASKED THAT THE ARMS FLIGHTS LAND AT A "SECRET AIRBASE" IN SOMALIA. THIS HAD BEEN DONE. SADAT VOICED INCREDULITY THAT THE SOMALI PRESIDENT WOULD HAVE TO RESORT TO SUCH A RUSE.

3. SADAT NOTED HE HAS ALSO ASSISTED MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA IN PROVIDING ARMS. HE CALLED HIMSELF A "POOR MAN" IN VIEW OF EGYPT'S DIFFICULT ECONOMIC POSITION, YET HAVING TO FACE ALL OF THIS. AS HE HAS ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS, HOWEVER, HE ASSERTED "I FEEL THIS IS MY DUTY AND I INTEND TO CONTINUE TO DO SO." THIS

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 CAIRO 10389 211728Z

WAS THE ONLY WAY THE SOVIET THREAT TO MODERATE AFRICAN REGIMES COULD BE COUNTERED.

4. ETHIOPIA AND LIBYA, HE REITERATED, ARE THE CURRENT SOVIET SURROGATES FOR THIS PURPOSE. THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF TOGOLESE PRESIDENT GENERAL EYADEMA, WHO HAD RECENTLY VISITED EGYPT, HE HAD SENT WORD TO QADHAFI

WARNING THE LATTER THAT IF ANY CUBANS WERE ENCOUNTERED UTILIZING SOVIET-PROVIDED EQUIPMENT AGAINST EGYPT OR EGYPT'S INTERESTS, HE WOULD VIEW IT AS AN ACT OF WAR AND COUNTER IT WITH FORCE.

5. HE HOPED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER WILL TAKE THESE FACTS INTO ACCOUNT IN MAKING HIS OWN CALCULATIONS OF ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT.

6. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SADAT AT NO POINT SPECIFICALLY REFERRED TO HIS EARLIER REQUEST FOR U.S. ARMS FOR USE IN COUNTERING THE PUTATIVE SOVIET THREAT TO MODERATE AFRICAN REGIMES, THIS WAS CLEARLY ON HIS MIND. HE TWICE REPEATED HIS OFFER TO GIVE US THE LIST OF ARMS HE HAS SENT TO SOMALIA. I DELIBERATELY DID NOT TAKE HIM UPON THAT OFFER LEST BY DOING SO HE INFER SOME KIND OF AN OBLIGATION THAT WE SHOULD PROVIDE SOME SUBSTITUTE ARMS. IF DEPT WISHES, HOWEVER, I AM SURE I CAN READILY OBTAIN THE LIST FROM HIM. WE WILL HEAR MORE OF THE EGYPTIAN APPEAL FOR U.S. ARMS IN THE AFRICAN CONTEXT.

EILTS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO10389
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770221-1162
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770637/aaaabfwa.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7c596479-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2086791
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SADAT ON ARMS TO SOMALIA
TAGS: MASS, EG, SO, (SADAT, ANWAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7c596479-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009